

My wife and I wish it known by way of this Submission that we are apposing AGLs proposed extension of time for the commencement of work regarding the Dalton Power Plant (DPP). We ask that the application by AGL be refused by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

We have read the draft extension application from AGL and wish to address the following issues.

JUSTIFICATION FOR EXTENDING THE LAPSE DATE.

The supply of electricity during all times, demand periods or otherwise is a consideration that should never be ignored and yet in this country we have situations like South Australia that have and will happen because we are going down the path of renewable energy. Renewable energy does play a part in power supply and over time will no doubt play a more important part in power supply which at this stage looks like battery storage of power from the sun/wind. It does make you wonder then if renewable energy supply at this stage is not capable and that it will not be capable of complete supply, then why are power plants closing or decreasing there output when we have clean coal. If it was an environmental thing then why are we so happy to export our coal overseas or does that not matter because that is them this is us. Then we want Gas Fired Power Plants to pick up the slack in demand periods. Given that gas is being considered in short supply as well as exported it would appear that we are mad for putting in a power plant that is gas operated or is it a fact that gas being more important as an exported commodity. The Australian population is increasing as we all know and demand for electricity and gas is forever increasing, installing Gas Fired Power Plants and renewable energy are not going to cut it for some time and we seem to want to put infrastructure in place that is not going to be used well into the future eg. Desalination plant in Sydney. One does have to worry when the DPP alone cannot improve reliability of the NEM, but does have the 'potential' to improve the network reliability as stated in para. 8 of this section One would want a guarantee.

IMPROVE EFFICIENCY, FLEXABILITY AND GREATER COMMUNITY CONSULTATION.

We all know things can be improved in time. Whether it can be cost effective is vey debateable as pricing and commodities used are constantly changing e.g. steel prices fluctuate on a daily basis.

It comes down to costs with the flow on effect of pricing onto the user.

AGL has had more than enough time to prepare an application for extension of its application. It seems that they have had more than enough time previously to state their intentions and to deal with the outcomes.

AGL has chosen to not communicate with the Dalton and surrounding communities since its previous suspension of the Dalton Power Plant application as was evident in the very recent Dalton Community meeting held on Thursday 23 March, 2017 at the ST. Matthews Church Hall in the township. The intentions of AGL to extension to its application was only found out indirectly by persons running the meeting so direct communication and transparency by AGL was not forthcoming as has been evident in the past and does not go well for the future. This can be re-enforced by AGLs non disclosure of Political Donation arising from its initial application for the Dalton Power Plant.

The placement of information on websites etc is not acceptable. Face to face factual, informed, structured meetings with appropriate time to establish the agenda for the meeting and to arrange for appropriate representatives to state their case. Transparency is of the utmost which AGL has shown it can't do.

If the Dalton community does not want the Dalton Power Plant then it is highly unlikely a community workshop would work as the feeling is very strong against AGLs application.

The issue of Community Investment, again if the Dalton community does not want the Power Plant then there will be no investment from them.

It would appear that the most cost effective and efficient solution for the DPP is out of reach of AGL as given the amount of time they have had in the past they could not keep pace of or shown complete interest in the project or the Dalton community as to give updates to the appropriate representatives of the Dalton community. One would assume expert reports etc would have been updated in a timely fashion.

As stated above, communication from AGL to the Dalton community has always been poor and would appear this will continue to be so given this latest extension application.

INCREASED PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT CONSISTENT WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY

In this section of the application it states that the DPP is consistent with Government Policy favouring private sector investment in Electricity generation.

The word 'projected' is used in relation to increased competition in the energy market. Something that is 'projected' is in the future so no guarantees can be given. Investment leads to price increases as in any private sector run business it is there to make a profit for its investors/stakeholders. Power costs are always going up as running costs of plant equipment will always go up. Restrained costs mentioned would be subject to much debate as to what it actually is and what benefit it gives to the consumer over time if any.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS. ENVIROMENT.

In this section it states approx. Some 250 jobs will be created for each of the production stages of the Dalton Power Plant and approx. 5-10 jobs for operational procedures once built. It goes on to say that the DPP will source as many construction workers and facility operators from the local region. The local region is not defined and certainly does not mention Dalton itself. Most construction companies have their own pool of workers and companies they deal with and we can't see that this would be any different.

There is no construction business or facility operating in Dalton as it is a small residential township surrounded by a farming community. The township is approximately 100 in population. There is a hotel, a small general store/post office and garage, owner operated.

The DPP would cause resentment by the Dalton community through traffic increase and management of same. No positive social impact other than maybe some income for the businesses mentioned but not likely if the workers are not from the township. eg. travel time for workers to return home. Come prepared with their own meals and obtain things like fuel from their own outlets at their locations.

There is no infrastructure in place to house or accommodate outside workers or traffic which will mainly be heavy vehicles. The movement of these vehicles on country roads and in the Dalton village would not only cause a maintenance issue but a safety issue given the lifestyle of the community.

To say that the application will result in negative environmental impact can't be more true as any construction and operation of a Gas Fired Power Plant like the one proposed for Dalton would certainly impact on the local environment not only through construction but operation, noise and emissions. It would not only impact of the existing wildlife and their breeding habits and localities, it would affect the community members their pets and livestock and paddocks.

The source of water whether it be from the Lachlan river or ground water also impacts on the community as both are sourced by the community so that they may carry out their lives and farming requirements.

All of the above would impact on land values, house values, quality of life for all.

Susan and I oppose the submission made by AGL regarding the extension.